Daniel E. Furtado

USAR Ambassador

Soldier over 50 years

I enrolled in ROTC in Fall 1961, at the University of California, Berkeley, CA. I later enlisted in the Army Reserve, and was commissioned in 1965.

Never left the Army.

My professional training includes a Doctor of Pharmacy degree, and a Masters in Public Administration [I was able to use my GI Bill education benefits, after my two years of active duty, to pay for this degree]. Graduate of the US Army War College.

Currently, I teach pharmacology at Stanford University School of Medicine.

From my experiences as soldier, unit member, and officer who was privileged to have 3 Colonel Command positions, I've worked with outstanding Americans and experienced many changes over the years.

I believe the Army, Army Reserve, and National Guard are organized appropriately to meet the needs of the Nation. (The important issues of budget and sequestration are not a part of my remarks this morning.)

With respect to the USAR, the focus my comments, we are organized by a functional command structure, which allows the senior commanders of each field to organize and assess the required strengths and training needed to meet the mission, and to recommend appropriate units and soldiers to be deployed.

We are aligned with active component commands to maximize our liaison for both improved understanding and training for the mission.

I believe that it is essential to have both our Army Reserve and Guard units embedded in our communities both for support and understanding of who we are. We want soldiers who live our communities to be a part of our units, and we need community support. I recall, as I'm sure you do, to paraphrase GEN Creighton Abrams, as he assessed aspects of the Vietnam War, he said, " I plan to organize the Army so that we can't go to battle in the future without our Reserve soldiers and without community support".

I have had the privilege of serving in public office for almost 15 years, as a member of the City Council of Campbell, CA, including three terms as Mayor. I was a member of the US Conference of Mayors, and served on the Boards of the National League of Cities and the League of California Cities, where I also served as Chair of the Public Safety Committees of

both organizations. As such, I had the opportunity to work with Mayors and Councilmembers from throughout the United States, and I know they support our military service members in the Active Component, Army Reserve, and National Guard. Elected leaders also welcome units stationed in their cities. The National League of Cities has been a long-time member of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, and many of our cities are individual members as well.

The Reserve forces provide important economic benefits to cities and counties. In California, we have over 16,000 USAR soldiers.

The Public – Private Partnership initiative of the Chief of the Army Reserve has brought increased cooperation between American Industry (including small businesses) and the US Army Reserve. Partnerships allow hands-on training with industry in order to improve technological and professional skills among soldiers, insure better mission accomplishment, provide understanding to business leaders of military needs and soldier contributions, and the relationship can lead to new civilian job opportunities for soldiers.

The National Guard has a state mission, under the leadership and direction of the nation's Governors, and the Army Reserve has new, expanded roles and capabilities in local and national

disasters when city and county governments need support in fires, floods, earthquakes, or other emergencies.

In short, we need to support our intra-Army roles and responsibilities, inter-service cooperation, and community cooperation. Significant changes in these relationships are not needed. We need to strengthen our relationships.